The Principles of War

The Principles of War

"The nine principles of war provide general guidance for conducting war and military operations other than war....The Principles are the enduring bedrock of Army doctrine."

FM 3-0, 2001

The Principles of War

BACKGROUND

- Sun Tzu, Miltiades, Antoine-Henri Jomini
  - Exploring early principles in theory and practice
- J.F.C. Fuller
  - First detailed enumeration of principles of war in 1916
- Nine American principles of war
  - First published and outlined in 1921 Training Regulations No. 10-5
  - First clarified in 1923 Infantry Journal articles
  - First officially defined in 1949 FM 100-5
  - Placed in FM 3-0
  - Continuing foundation of Army doctrine

The Principles of War

***1*. OBJECTIVE**

***2*. OFFENSIVE**

***3*. MASS**

***4*. ECONOMY OF FORCE**

***5*. MANEUVER**

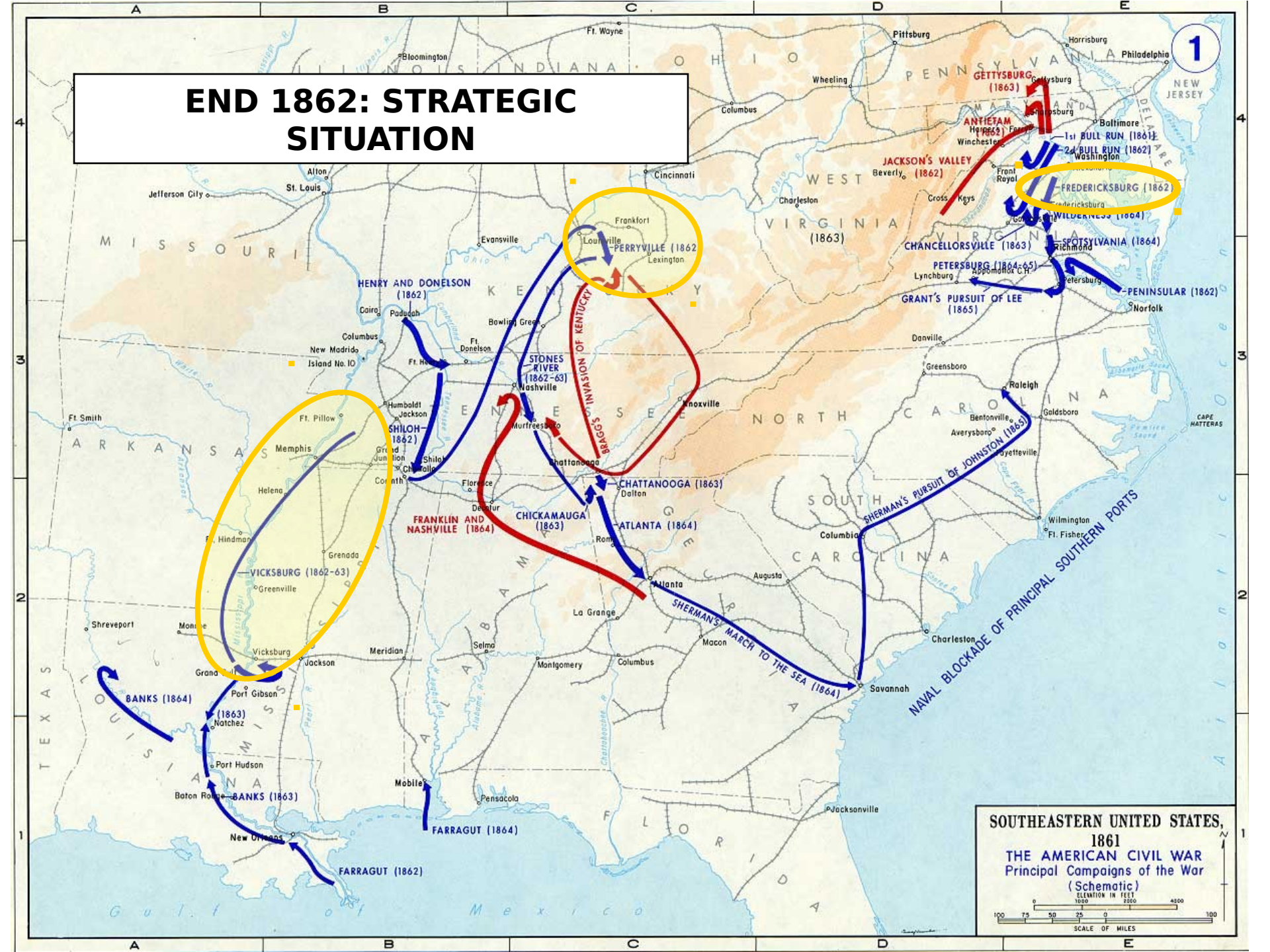
***6*. UNITY OF COMMAND**

***7*. SECURITY**

***8*. SURPRISE**

***9*. SIMPLICITY**

END 1862: STRATEGIC SITUATION



CHANCELLORSVILLE

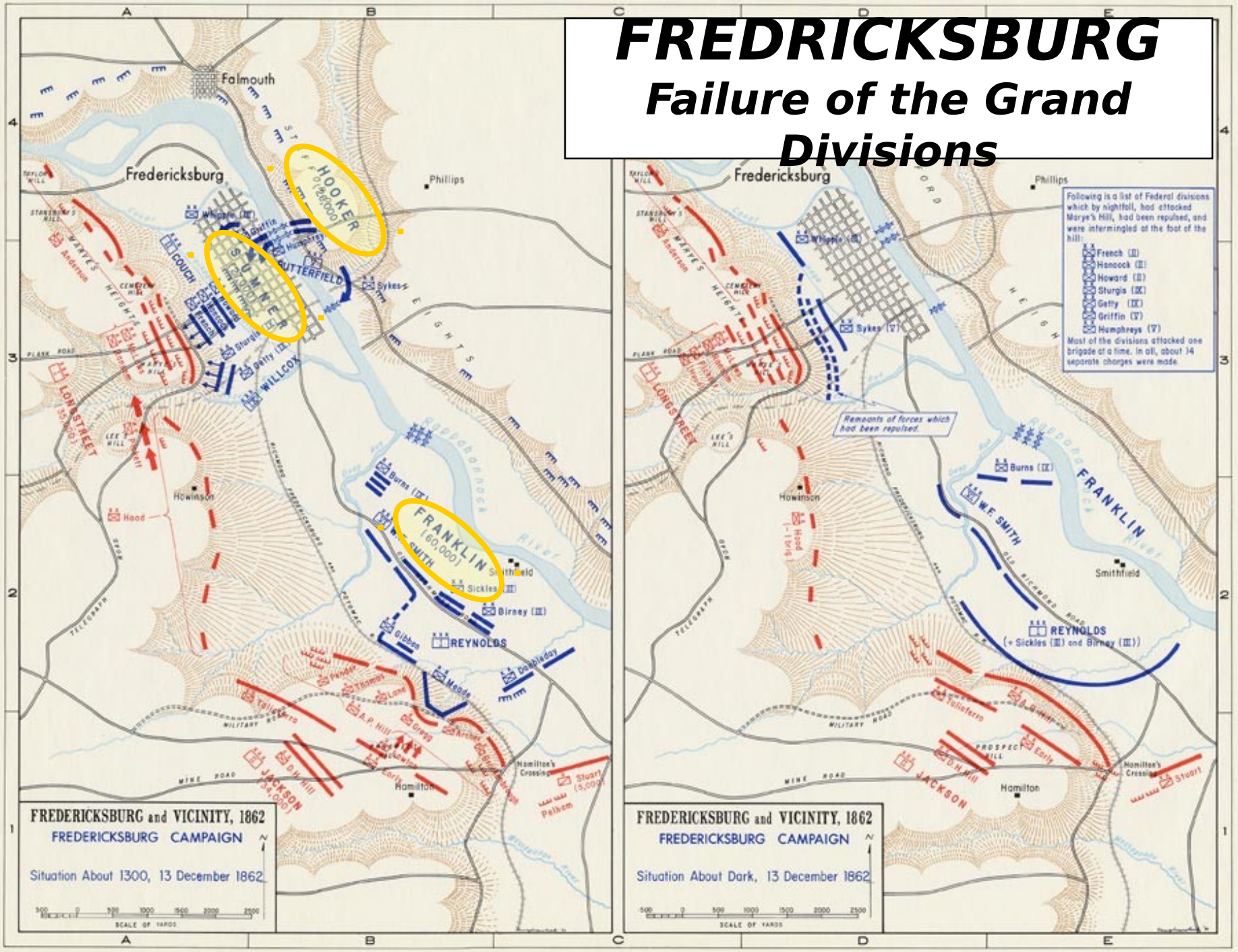
BACKGROUND

- 1862 ENDS POORLY FOR THE UNION:
  - 3 OPERATIONS INITIATED AFTER BATTLE OF ANTIETAM
  - ALL 3 OPERATIONS STALLED BY END OF DECEMBER

- VICKSBURG AND CHATTANOOGA STILL IN CONFEDERATE HANDS

- ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA STILL EFFECTIVE
  - BATTLE OF FREDRICKSBURG IS THE WORST UNION DEFEAT TO DATE
  - BURNSIDE'S VAGUE PLAN AND POOR EXECUTION RESULTS IN DISASTER
  - PRESIDENT LINCOLN REPLACES BURNSIDE WITH "FIGHTING JOE" HOOKER

FREDRICKSBURG
Failure of the Grand Divisions



DOCTRINE

- **UNITY OF COMMAND:**

For every objective, ensure unity of effort under one responsible commander.

⇨ A single commander directs all actions of all forces toward a common objective

⇨ Absence of Command Authority requires unity of effort

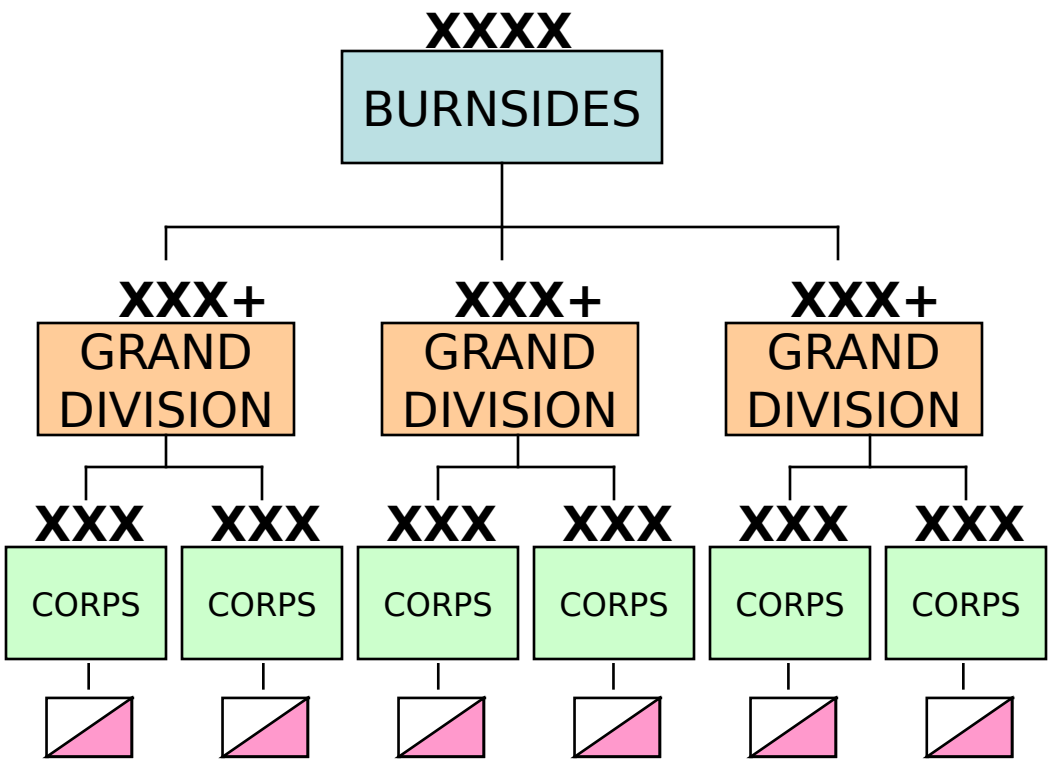
- Joint, Multi-national, interagency

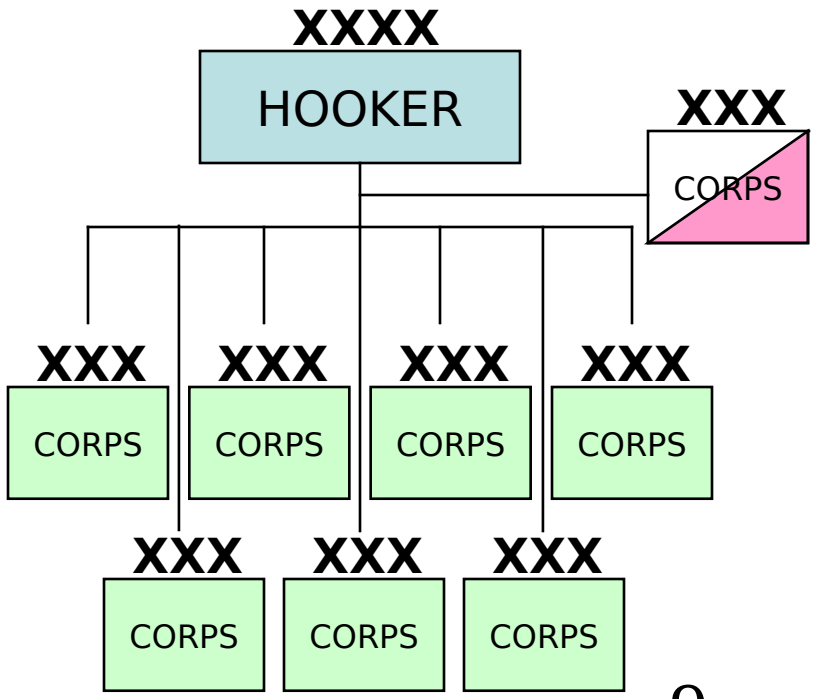
CHANCELLORSVILLE

- **UNITY OF COMMAND**

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC STRUCTURE

FREDRICKSBURG vs CHANCELLORSVILLE





DOCTRINE

- **SECURITY:**

Never permit the enemy to acquire an unexpected advantage.

➔Protect and preserve combat force

➔Take necessary, calculated risks

➔Deception enhances Security

CHANCELLORSVILLE

- **SECURITY:**

  ➔Hooker implements intelligence / counterintelligence measures

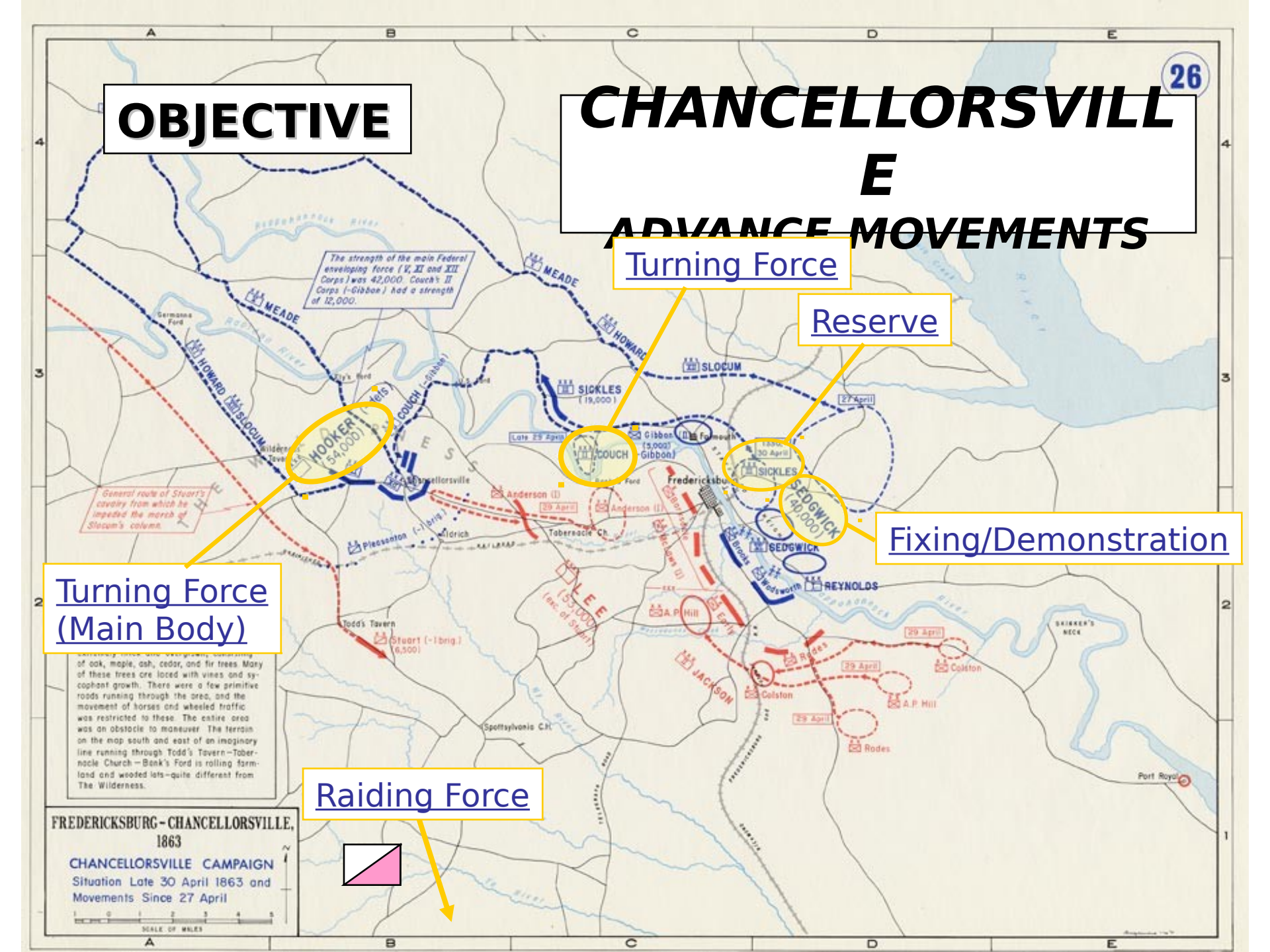
  - Military Intelligence Bureau
  - Newspaper Censoring
  - Deception Operations

DOCTRINE

- **OBJECTIVE:**

Direct every military operation toward a clearly defined, decisive, and attainable objective.

- ⇨ Operational and Tactical Level
  - All actions contribute to higher commander's goals
- ⇨ Strategic Level
  - Clear vision of the end-state
- ⇨ Restraint and Legitimacy


OBJECTIVE
CHANCELLORSVILLE
E
ADVANCE MOVEMENTS
26
Turning Force
Reserve
Fixing/Demonstration
Turning Force (Main Body)
Raiding Force
FREDERICKSBURG - CHANCELLORSVILLE, 1863
CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN
Situation Late 30 April 1863 and Movements Since 27 April
HOOKER (54,000)
SICKLES (19,000)
SEDGWICK (40,000)
REYNOLDS
COUCH
SLOCUM
HOWARD
MEADE
LEE (55,000)
JACKSON
A.P. Hill
Early
Colston
Rodes
Stuart (-1 brig.) (6,500)
Anderson (I)
Pleasonton (-1 brig.)
Gibbon (5,000)
Chancellorsville
Fredericksburg
Tabernacle Ch.
Todd's Tavern
Spottsylvania C.H.
Port Royal
Germanna Ford
Ely's Ford
U.S. Ford
Banks' Ford
Rappahannock River
Rapidan River
The strength of the main Federal enveloping force (V, XI and XII Corps) was 42,000. Couch's II Corps (-Gibbon) had a strength of 12,000.
General route of Stuart's cavalry from which he impeded the march of Slocum's column.
Late 29 April
30 April
27 April
29 April

DOCTRINE

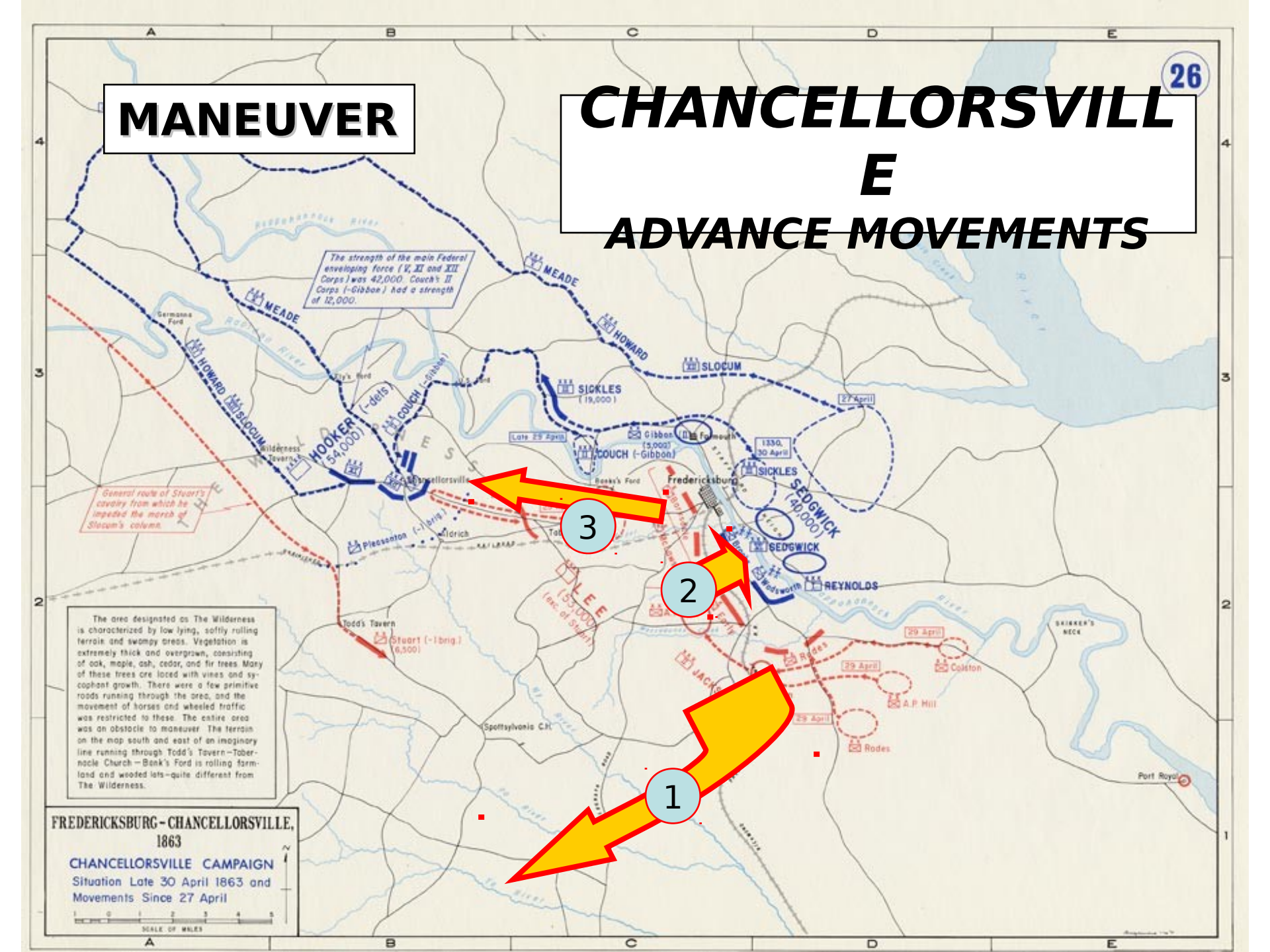
- **MANEUVER:**

Place the enemy in a disadvantageous position through the flexible application of combat power.

→Concentrates and disperses combat power

→Keeps enemy off balance and reduces cost

→Flexibility


MANEUVER
CHANCELLORSVILLE
ADVANCE MOVEMENTS
26
MEADE
HOWARD
SLOCUM
SICKLES
(19,000)
HOOKER
(54,000)
COUCH (-Gibbon)
SEDGWICK
(40,000)
REYNOLDS
LEE
(55,000)
Chancellorsville
Fredericksburg
Pleasonton (-) brig.
Stuart (-) brig.
(6,500)
Todd's Tavern
Spottsylvania C.H.
A.P. Hill
Colston
Rodes
Port Royal
3
2
1
The strength of the main Federal enveloping force (V, XI and XII Corps) was 42,000. Couch's II Corps (-Gibbon) had a strength of 12,000.
General route of Stuart's cavalry from which he impeded the march of Slocum's column.
The area designated as The Wilderness is characterized by low lying, softly rolling terrain and swampy areas. Vegetation is extremely thick and overgrown, consisting of oak, maple, ash, cedar, and fir trees. Many of these trees are laced with vines and sycophant growth. There were a few primitive roads running through the area, and the movement of horses and wheeled traffic was restricted to these. The entire area was an obstacle to maneuver. The terrain on the map south and east of an imaginary line running through Todd's Tavern–Tabernacle Church–Bank's Ford is rolling farmland and wooded lots–quite different from The Wilderness.
FREDERICKSBURG–CHANCELLORSVILLE, 1863
CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN
Situation Late 30 April 1863 and Movements Since 27 April

DOCTRINE

- **OFFENSIVE:**

Seize, retain, and exploit the initiative.

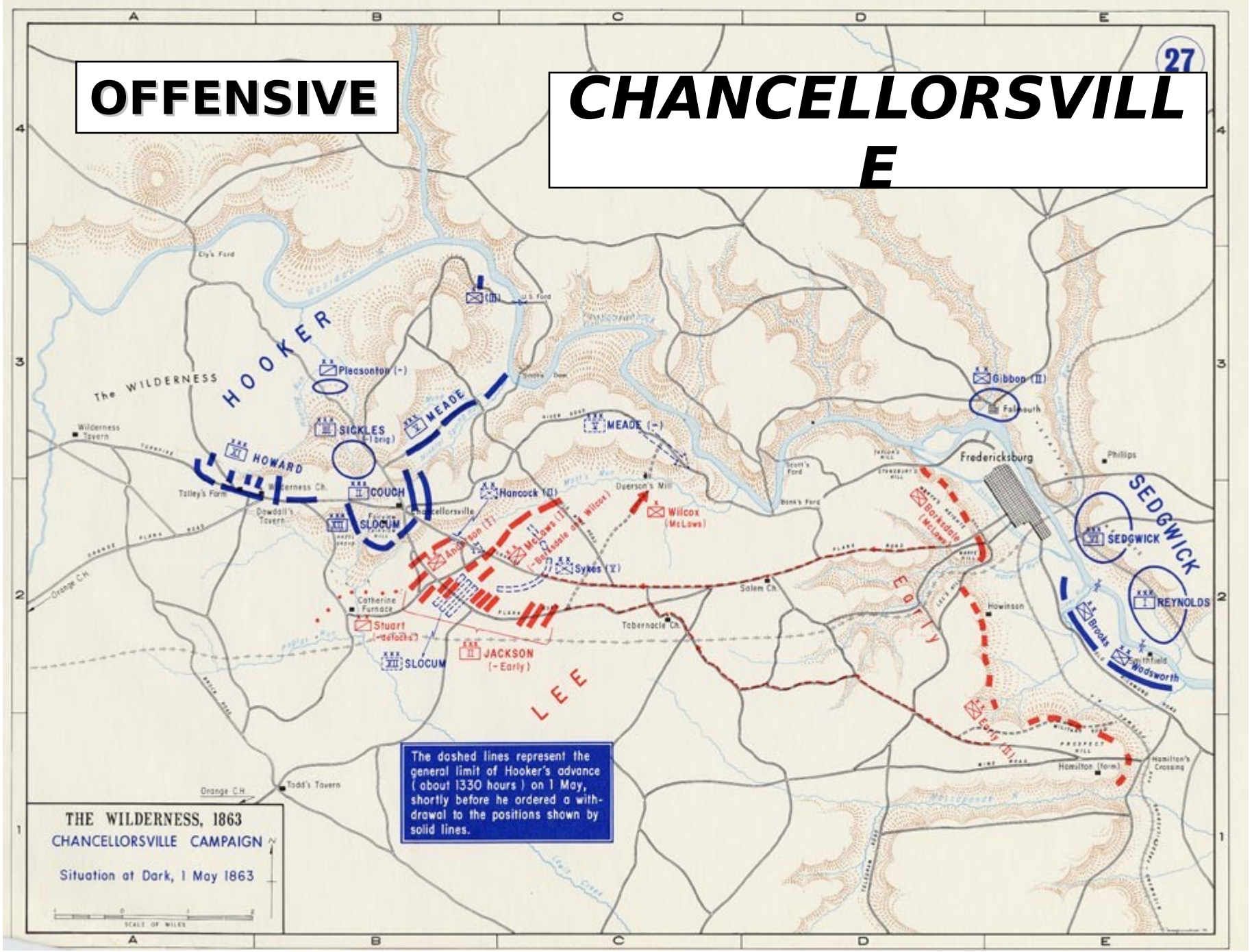
➔Offensive actions:

- Dictate the nature, scope and tempo
- Force the enemy to react

➔Essential to retain freedom of action

OFFENSIVE

CHANCELLORSVILLE



DOCTRINE

- **SIMPLICITY:**

Prepare clear, uncomplicated plans and clear, concise orders to ensure thorough understanding.

⇨ Reduce misunderstanding and confusion

⇨ METT-TC will determine degree of simplicity

⇨ Simple plan on time vs. detailed plan executed late

DOCTRINE

- **MASS:**

Concentrate the effects of combat power at the decisive place and time.

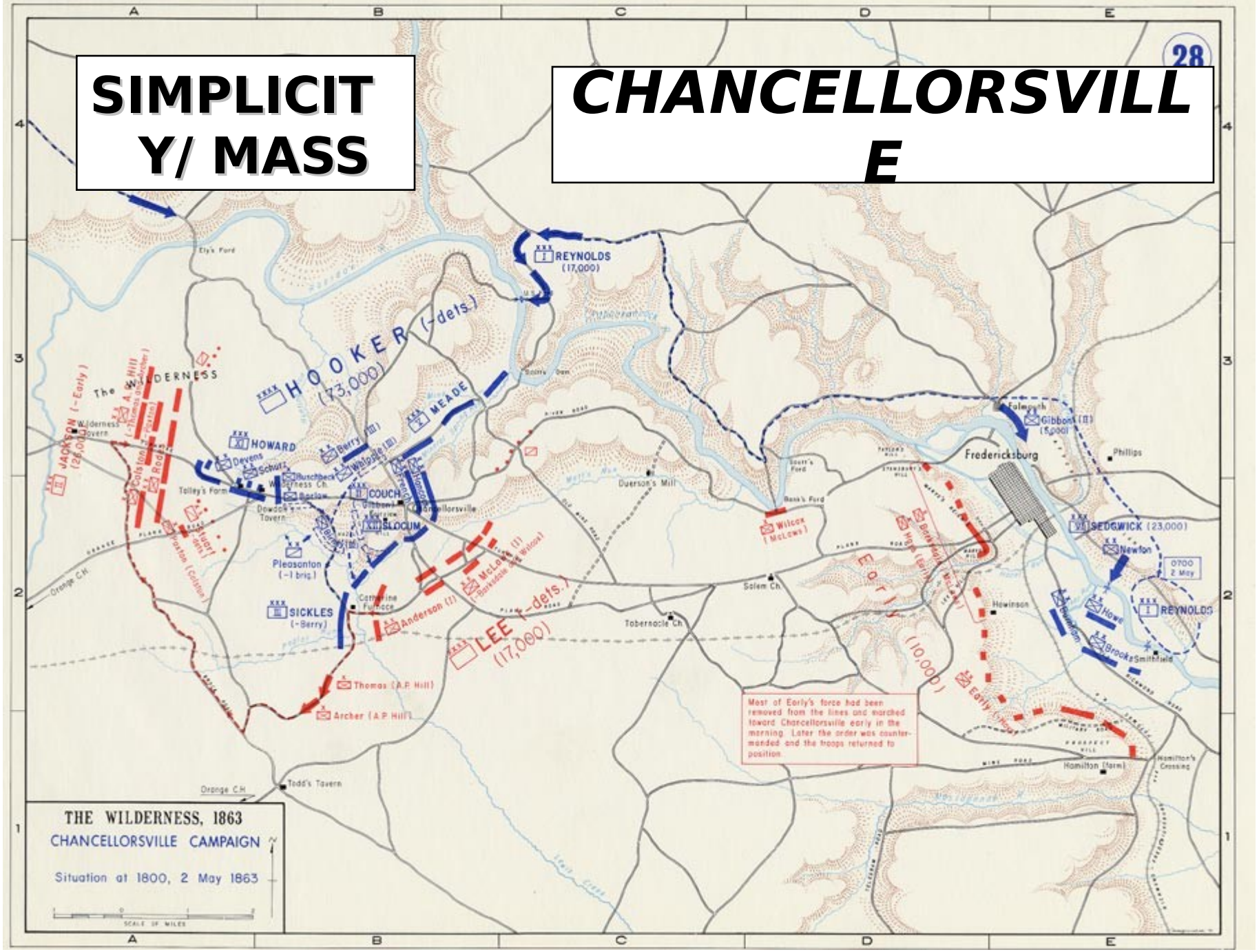
→Mass in time = applying combat power against multiple target simultaneously

→Mass in space = concentrate different elements of combat power against a single target

→Both can overwhelm and enemy or dominate a situation

SIMPLICITY/ MASS

CHANCELLORSVILLE



DOCTRINE

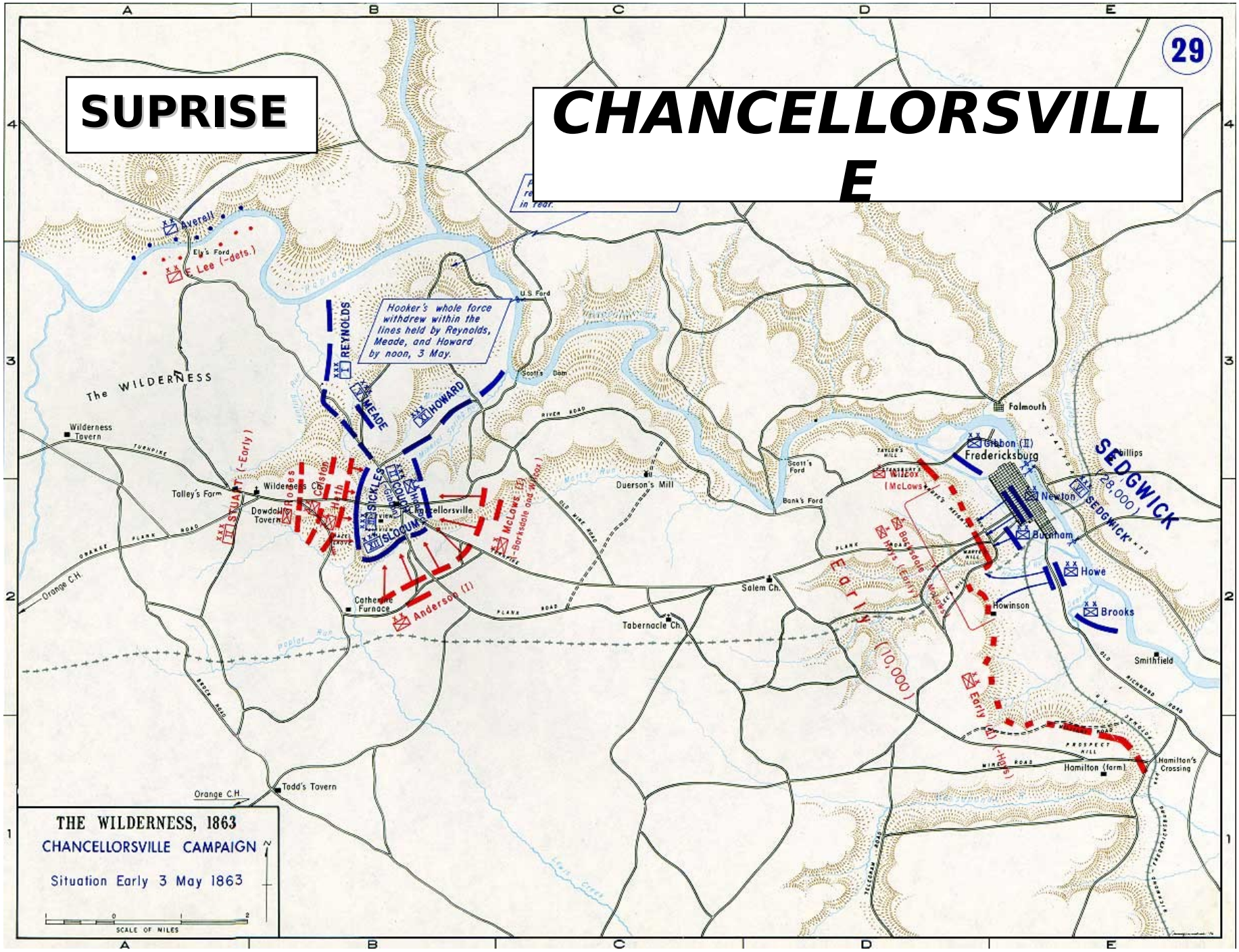
- **SURPRISE:**

Strike the enemy at a time or place or in a manner for which he is unprepared.

→Major contributor to achieving Shock

→Powerful but Temporary

→Contributing factors: Speed, Operations Security, Asymmetric capabilities


29
SUPRISE
CHANCELLORSVILLE
Hooker's whole force withdrew within the lines held by Reynolds, Meade, and Howard by noon, 3 May.
THE WILDERNESS, 1863
CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN
Situation Early 3 May 1863
SCALE OF MILES
The WILDERNESS
Averell
Ely's Ford
R. E. Lee (-dets.)
U.S. Ford
REYNOLDS
MEADE
HOWARD
SICKLES
SLOCUM
HOOKER
Wilderness Tavern
Talley's Farm
Wilderness Ch.
Dowdall's Tavern
Chancellorsville
Scott's Dam
Dueron's Mill
Scott's Ford
Bank's Ford
Falmouth
Fredericksburg
Gibbon (II)
Wilcox
(McLaws)
Newton
Burnham
Howe
Brooks
Howinson
Smithfield
SEDGWICK
(28,000)
Phillips
Early
(10,000)
Hays (Early)
Barksdale
Anderson (I)
McLaws (I)
(-Barksdale and Wilcox)
Cathedral Furnace
Tabernacle Ch.
Salem Ch.
Todd's Tavern
Orange C.H.
Hamilton (farm)
Hamilton's Crossing
Plank Road
Orange Plank Road
River Road
Old Wire Road
Old Richmond Road
Telegraph Road
Wire Road
Prospect Hill
Hazel Grove
Poplar Run
Lewis Creek

DOCTRINE

- **ECONOMY OF FORCE:**

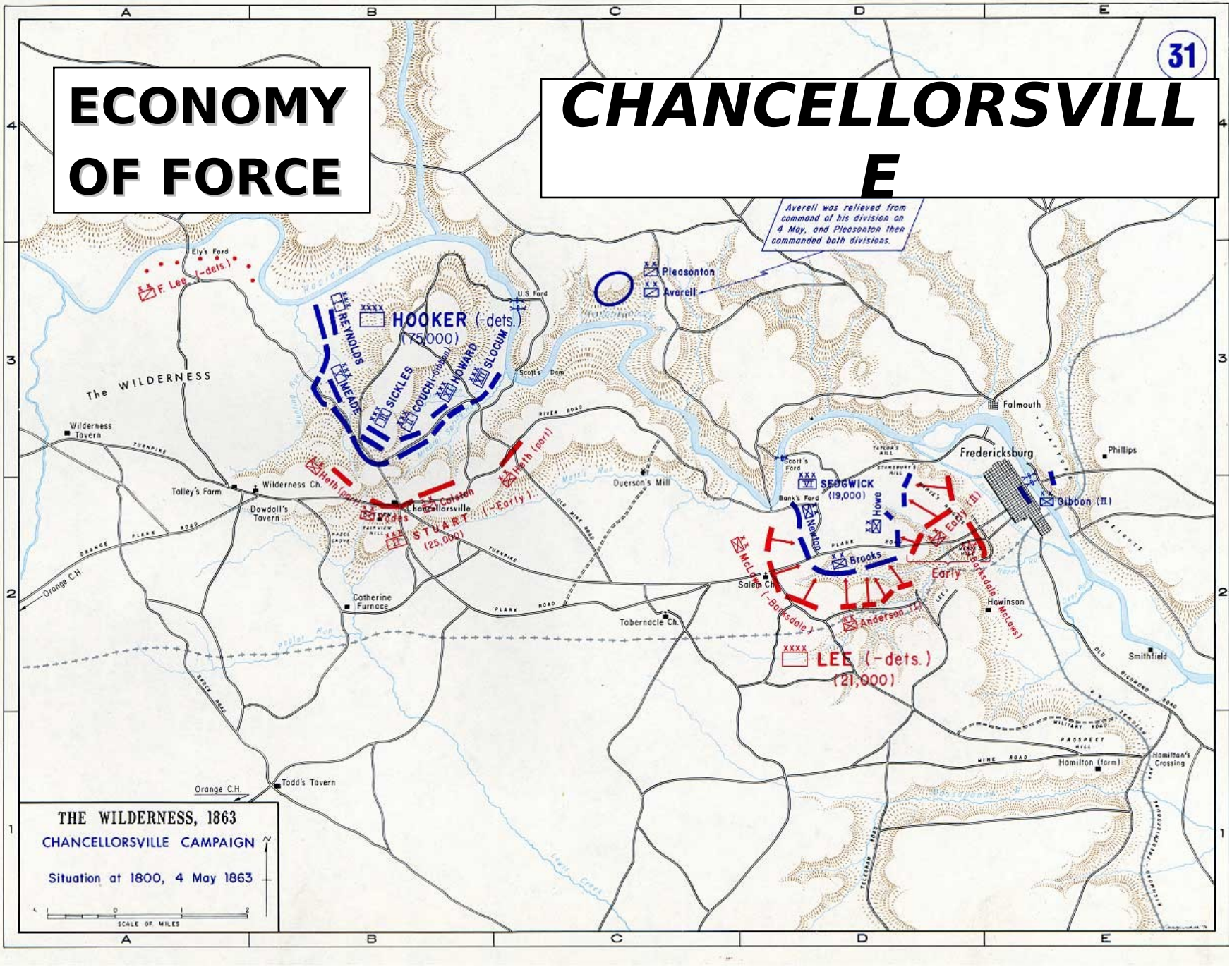
Allocate minimum essential combat power to secondary efforts.

➔Discriminating employment and distribution of forces

➔Accepting risk in selected areas to achieve overwhelming effects in decisive operations.

ECONOMY OF FORCE

CHANCELLORSVILLE



LIMITATIONS OF THE PRINCIPLES OF WAR:

➔*Not prescription, formula, recipe, or checklist!*

➔*May be followed or violated and either win or lose!*

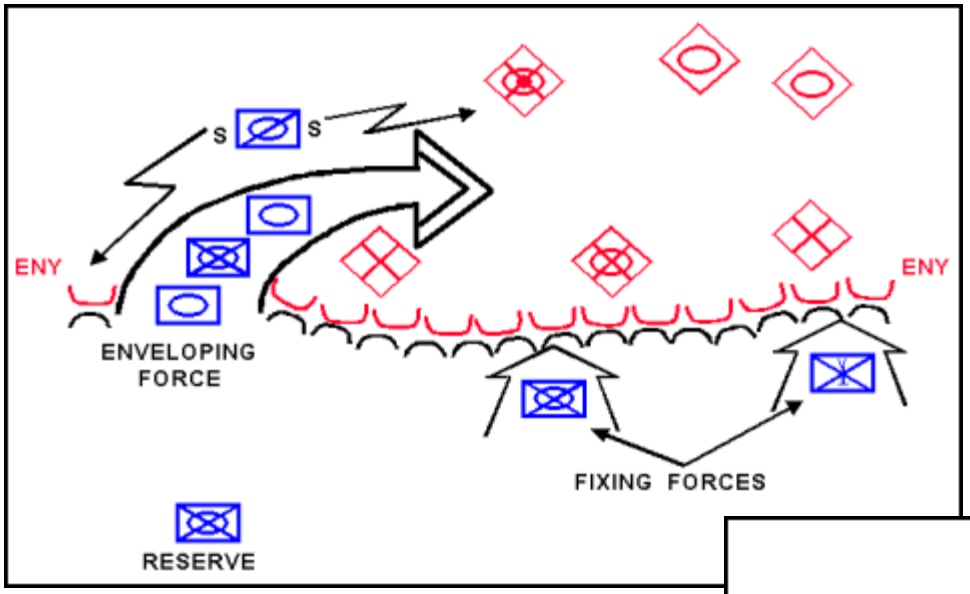
➔*Guidelines and tool for analysis only!*

BACKUP SLIDES

Doctrinal Terms

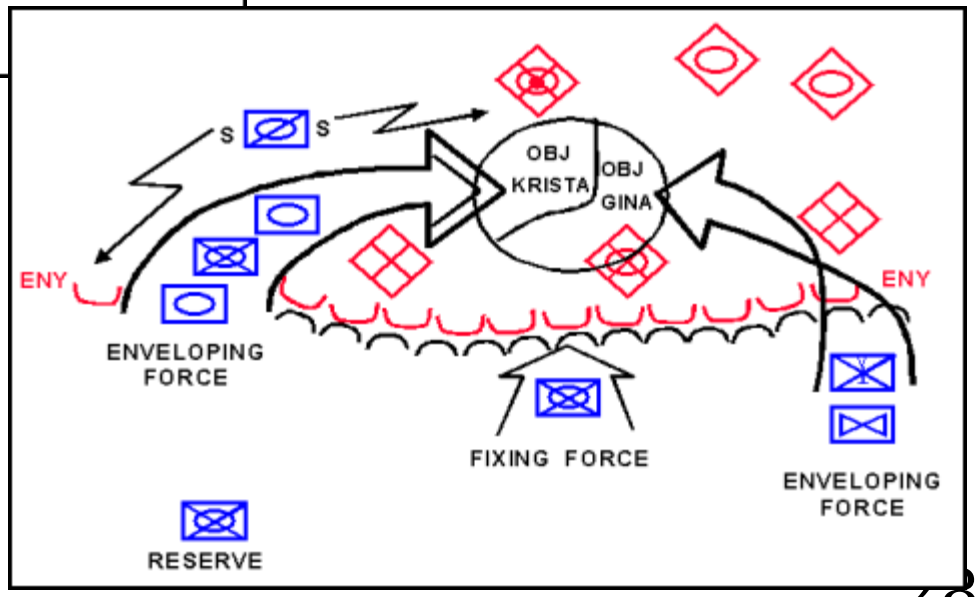
Forms of Maneuver

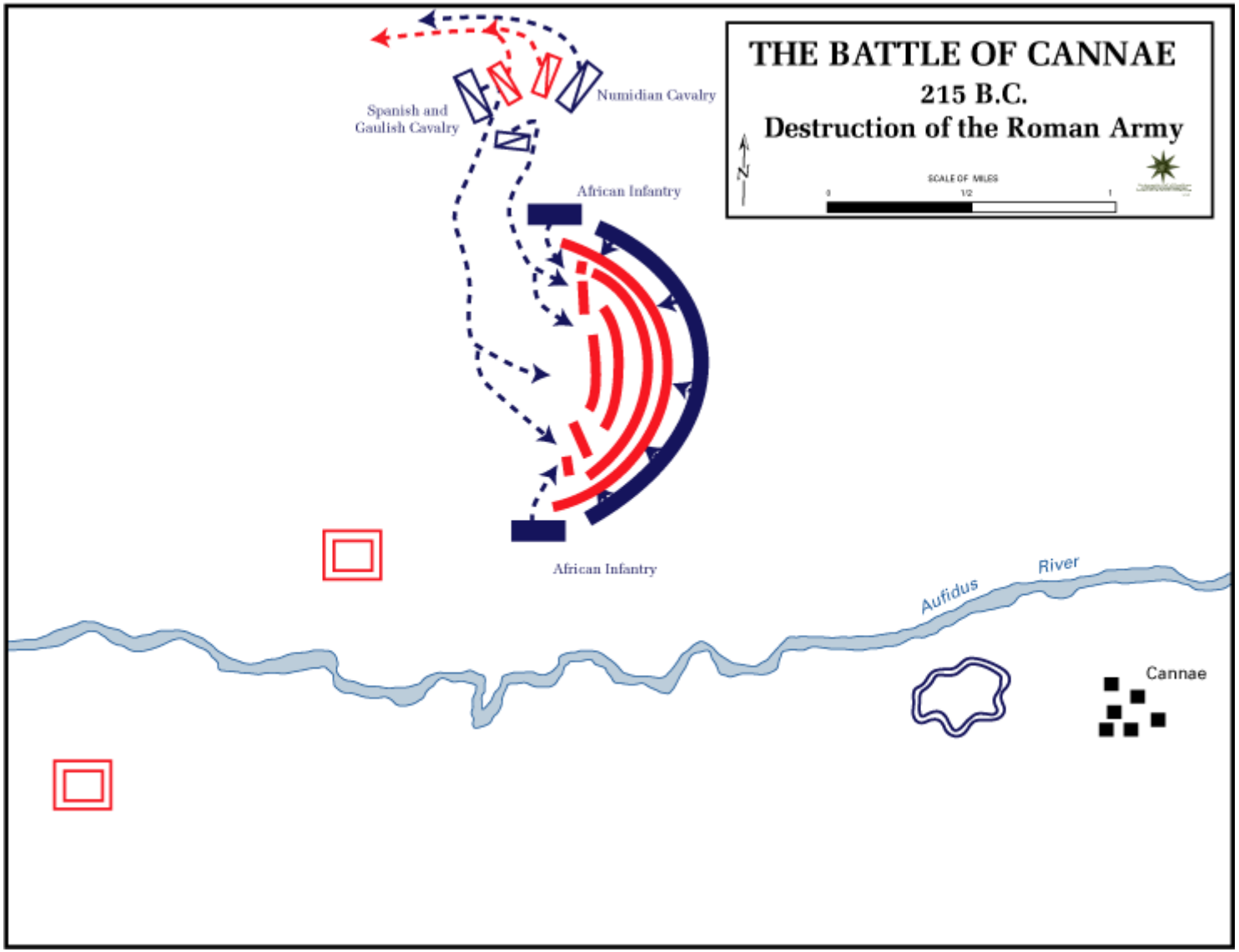
Envelopment



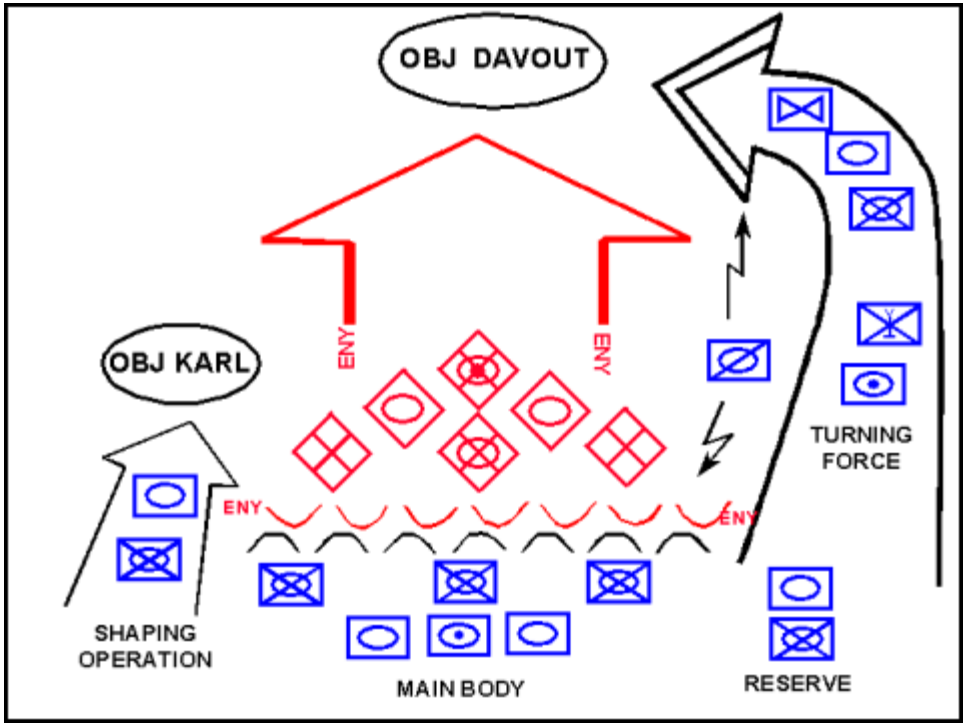
Single

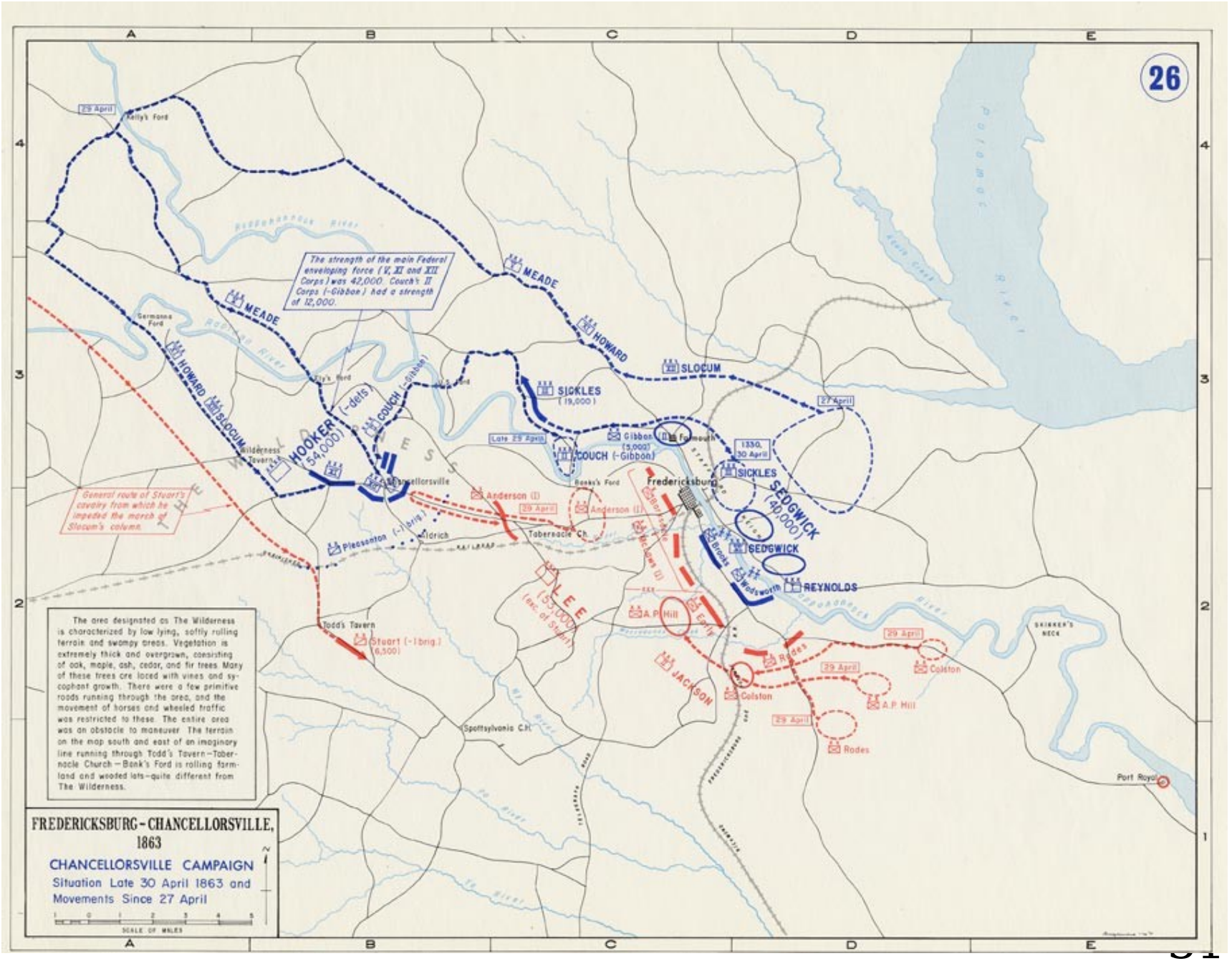
Double




THE BATTLE OF CANNAE
215 B.C.
Destruction of the Roman Army
N
SCALE OF MILES
0
1/2
1
Spanish and
Gaulish Cavalry
Numidian Cavalry
African Infantry
African Infantry
Aufidus
River
Cannae

Turning Movement




26
29 April
Kelly's Ford
Rappahannock River
Germanna Ford
Rapidan River
The strength of the main Federal enveloping force (V, XI and XII Corps) was 42,000. Couch's II Corps (-Gibbon) had a strength of 12,000.
MEADE
HOWARD
SLOCUM
SICKLES (19,000)
HOOKER (54,000)
COUCH (-dets)
COUCH (-Gibbon)
Wilderness Tavern
Chancellorsville
Late 29 April
Gibbon (5,000)
Falmouth
1330, 30 April
27 April
Fredericksburg
Banks's Ford
Anderson (I)
29 April
Stafford Heights
SEDGWICK (40,000)
Brooks
Wadsworth
REYNOLDS
McLaws (I)
Early
A.P. Hill
LEE (53,000 (exc. of Stuart))
JACKSON
Rodes
Colston
29 April
A.P. Hill
Skinker's Neck
Port Royal
Pleasonton (-1brig.)
Florich
Tabernacle Ch.
Todd's Tavern
Stuart (-1brig.) (6,500)
Spottsylvania C.H.
Po River
Ny River
General route of Stuart's cavalry from which he impeded the march of Slocum's column.
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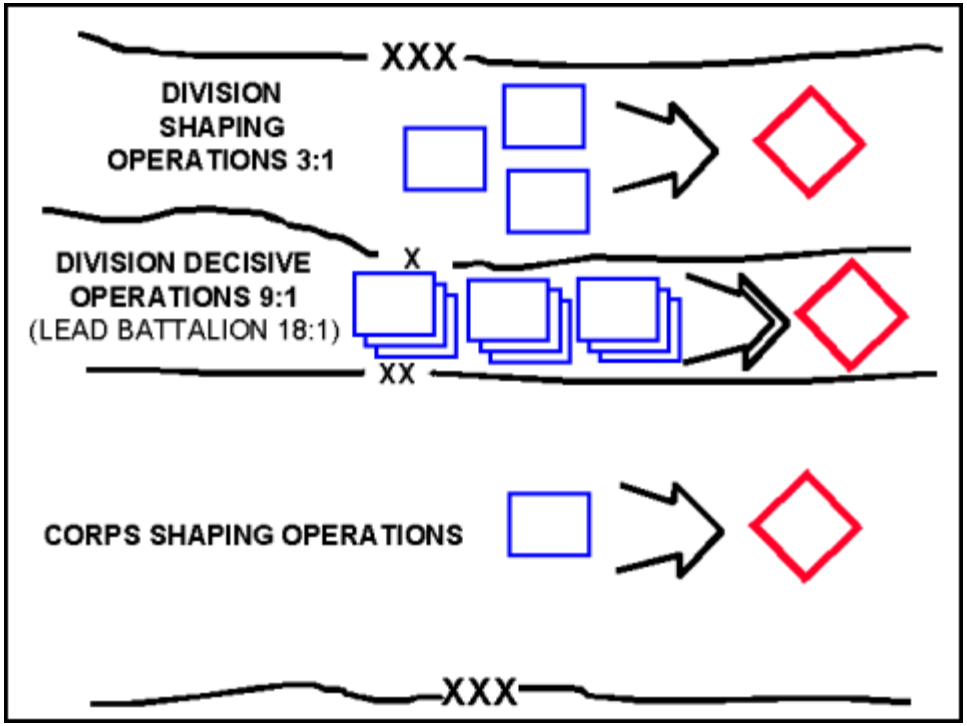
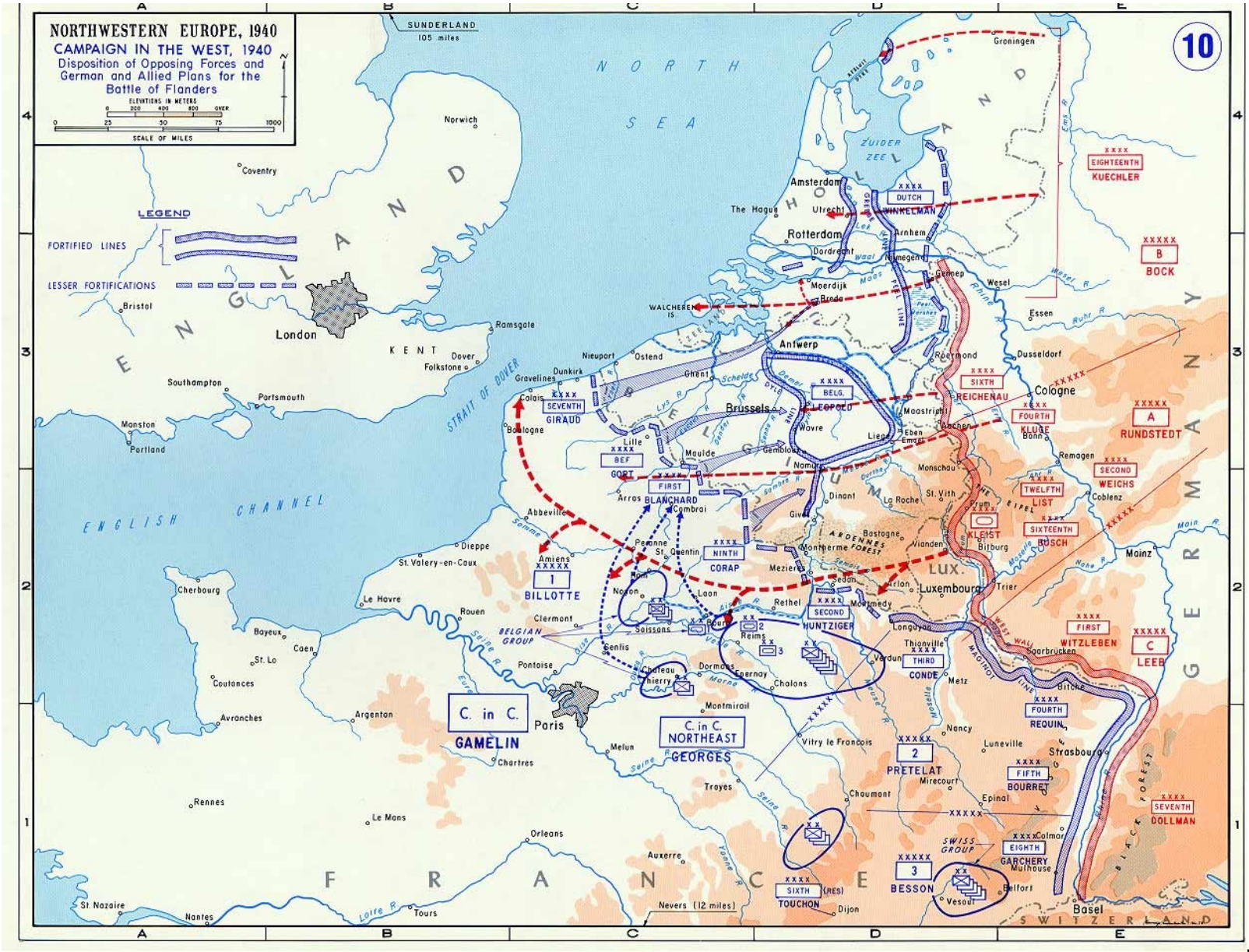
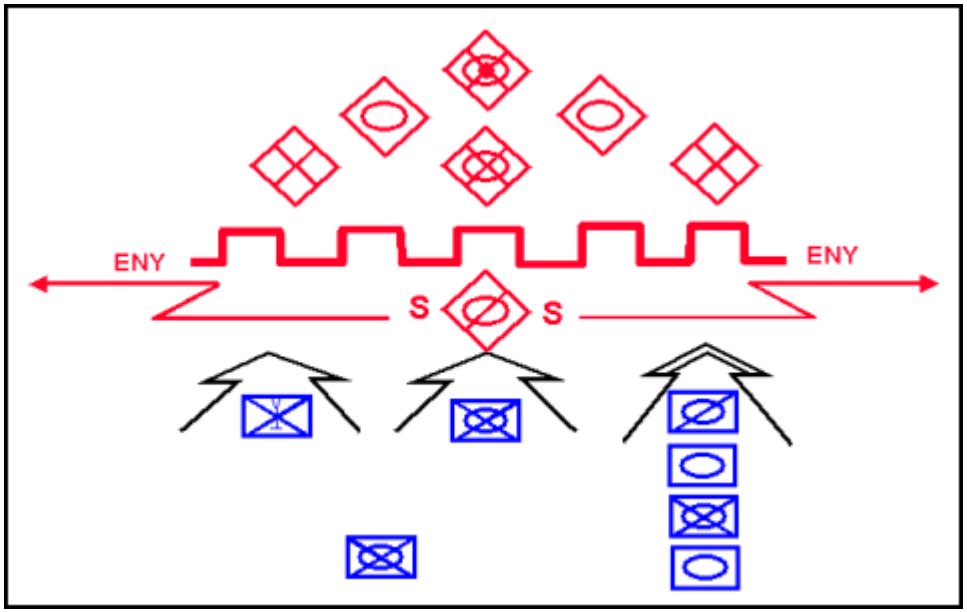
FREDERICKSBURG - CHANCELLORSVILLE, 1863
CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN
Situation Late 30 April 1863 and Movements Since 27 April
SCALE OF MILES
A
B
C
D
E
1
2
3
4

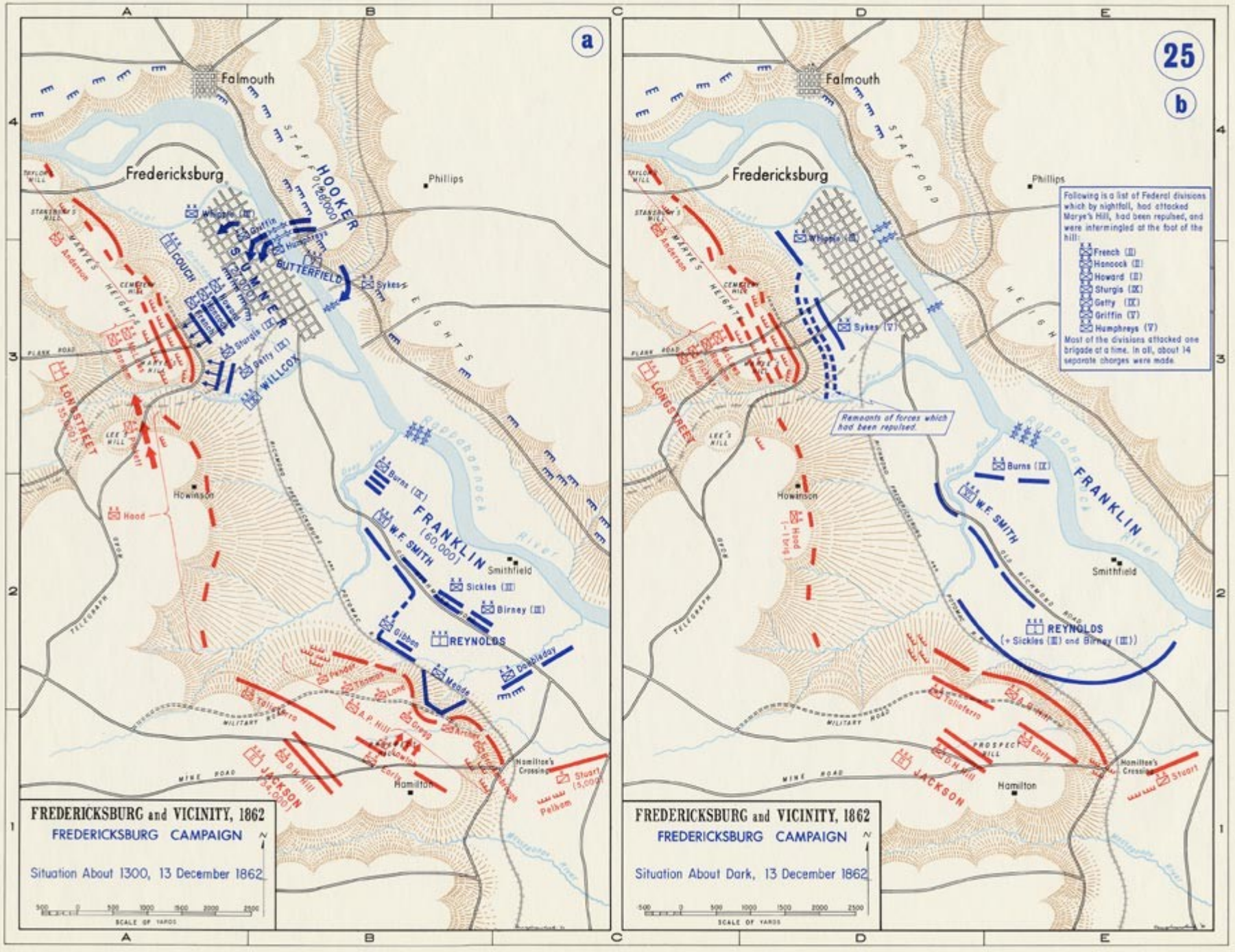
Penetration



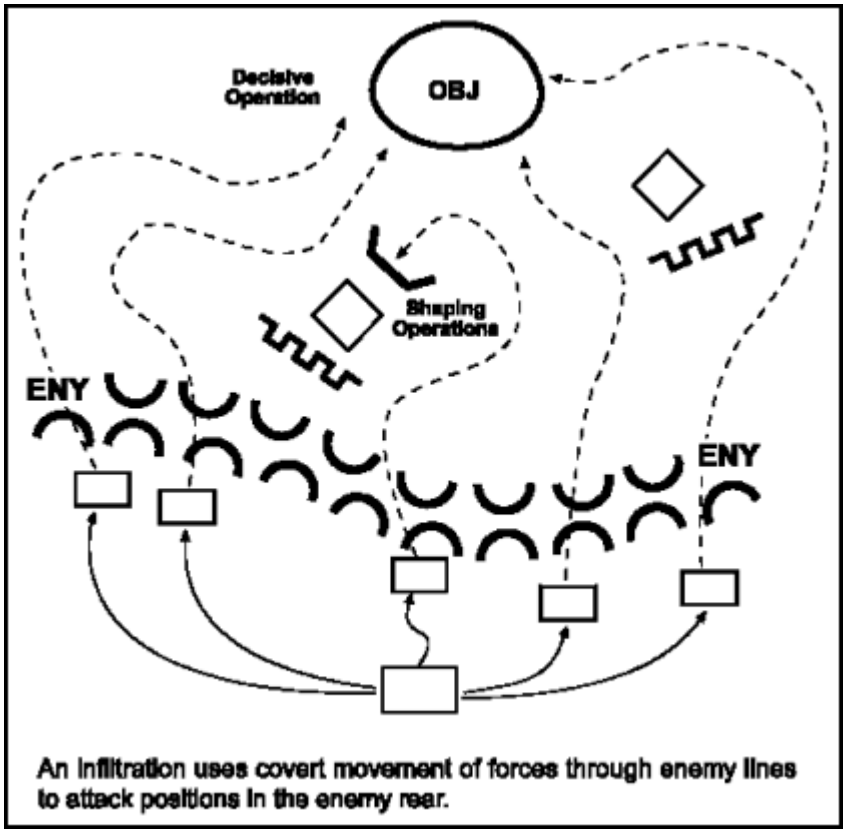

NORTHWESTERN EUROPE, 1940
CAMPAIGN IN THE WEST, 1940
Disposition of Opposing Forces and German and Allied Plans for the Battle of Flanders
10
LEGEND
FORTIFIED LINES
LESSER FORTIFICATIONS
NORTH SEA
ENGLISH CHANNEL
STRAIT OF DOVER
ENGLAND
HOLLAND
BELGIUM
LUX.
GERMANY
FRANCE
SWITZERLAND
London
Amsterdam
Rotterdam
The Hague
Antwerp
Brussels
Cologne
Paris
Luxembourg
Metz
Strasbourg
Basel
Dijon
Nancy
Verdun
Reims
Amiens
Lille
Calais
Dunkirk
Ostend
Ghent
Liege
Aachen
Mainz
Coblenz
Trier
Saarbrucken
Mulhouse
Belfort
Vesoul
Colmar
Epinal
Troyes
Chalons
Rethel
Sedan
Montmedy
Bastogne
Arlon
Longuyon
Thionville
Mirecourt
Luneville
Chaumont
Vitry le Francois
Montmirail
Chartres
Melun
Orleans
Auxerre
Nevers (12 miles)
Tours
Nantes
St. Nazaire
Le Mans
Rennes
Cherbourg
Le Havre
Rouen
Caen
Bayeux
St. Lo
Coutances
Avranches
Argentan
Dieppe
St. Valery-en-Caux
Abbeville
Boulogne
Calais
Dover
Folkestone
Ramsgate
Norwich
Coventry
Bristol
Portsmouth
Southampton
Portland
Weymouth
Groningen
Arnhem
Nijmegen
Wesel
Essen
Dusseldorf
Remagen
Bonn
Maastricht
Eben Emael
Namur
Dinant
Givet
Monschau
St. Vith
La Roche
Bitburg
Morlaix
Gembloux
Maubeuge
Lille
Arras
Cambrai
Peronne
St. Quentin
Laon
Soissons
Montdidier
Dormans
Epernay
Chateau Thierry
Pontoise
Clermont
Gravelines
Nieuport
Zuider Zee
Walcheren Is
Schelde R.
Meuse R.
Somme R.
Seine R.
Loire R.
Marne R.
Aisne R.
Oise R.
Moselle R.
Rhine R.
Ruhr R.
Ems R.
Weser R.
Lys R.
Yonne R.
Saar R.
Nahe R.
Main R.
Neckar R.
Black Forest
Ardennes Forest
Montherme Forest
Maginot Line
West Wall
Siegfried Line
Peel Marshes
Dyle Line
Gembloux Gap
Albert Canal
Meuse-Escaut Canal
Sambre R.
Durbuy
Eifel
Hunsruck
Moselle R.
Nahe R.
Main R.
Neckar R.
Black Forest
Rhine R.
Ruhr R.
Ems R.
Weser R.
Lys R.
Yonne R.
Saar

Frontal Attack

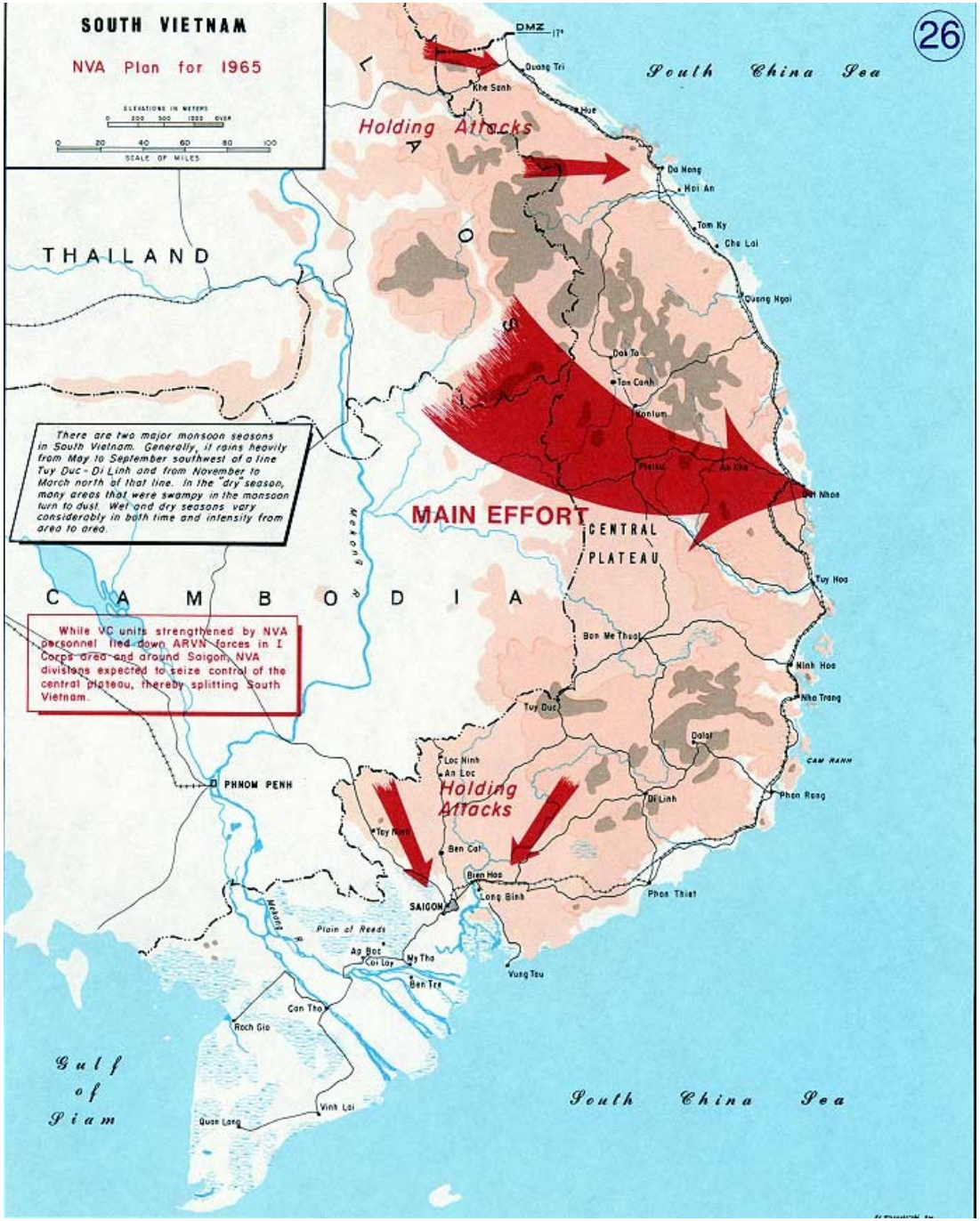



a
Falmouth
Fredericksburg
Phillips
HOOKER (130,000)
STAFFORD HEIGHTS
Whipple (III)
Griffin (V)
Humphreys (V)
COUCH
SUMNER
Howard (II)
Sturgis (IX)
Getty (IX)
WILLCOX
BUTTERFIELD
Sykes (V)
MARYE'S HEIGHTS
Anderson
CEMETERY HILL
PLANK ROAD
LONGSTREET (55,000)
Howison
Hood
Rappahannock River
Burns (IX)
FRANKLIN (60,000)
W.F. SMITH
Smithfield
Sickles (III)
Birney (III)
REYNOLDS
Gibbon
Meade
Doubleday
Pendleton
Thomas
Lane
Gregg
A.P. Hill
Tallaferro
Archer
Brockenbrough
Pegram
Cobb
Cooke
Early
D.H. Hill
JACKSON (35,000)
Hamilton
Hamilton's Crossing
Stuart (5,000)
Pelham
TELEGRAPH ROAD
MILITARY ROAD
MINE ROAD
FREDERICKSBURG and VICINITY, 1862
FREDERICKSBURG CAMPAIGN
Situation About 1300, 13 December 1862
SCALE OF YARDS
25
b
Following is a list of Federal divisions which by nightfall, had attacked Marye's Hill, had been repulsed, and were intermingled at the foot of the hill:
French (II)
Hancock (II)
Howard (II)
Sturgis (IX)
Getty (IX)
Griffin (V)
Humphreys (V)
Most of the divisions attacked one brigade at a time. In all, about 14 separate charges were made.
Remnants of forces which had been repulsed.
FREDERICKSBURG and VICINITY, 1862
FREDERICKSBURG CAMPAIGN
Situation About Dark, 13 December 1862
SCALE OF YARDS

Infiltration



An infiltration uses covert movement of forces through enemy lines to attack positions in the enemy rear.


SOUTH VIETNAM
NVA Plan for 1965
26
DMZ
17°
Quang Tri
Khe Sanh
Hue
South China Sea
Holding Attacks
Da Nang
Hoi An
Tam Ky
Chu Lai
Quang Ngai
THAILAND
LAOS
Dak To
Ton Canh
Kontum
Pleiku
An Khe
Qui Nhon
There are two major monsoon seasons in South Vietnam. Generally, it rains heavily from May to September southwest of a line Tuy Duc - Di Linh and from November to March north of that line. In the "dry season, many areas that were swampy in the monsoon turn to dust. Wet and dry seasons vary considerably in both time and intensity from area to area.
MAIN EFFORT
CENTRAL PLATEAU
Mekong R.
CAMBODIA
Tuy Hoa
While VC units strengthened by NVA personnel tied down ARVN forces in I Corps area and around Saigon, NVA divisions expected to seize control of the central plateau, thereby splitting South Vietnam.
Ban Me Thuot
Ninh Hoa
Nha Trang
Tuy Duc
Dalat
Loc Ninh
An Loc
PHNOM PENH
Holding Attacks
Di Linh
Phan Rang
Tay Ninh
Ben Cat
Bien Hoa
Long Binh
SAIGON
Phan Thiet
Plain of Reeds
Ap Bac
Cai Lay
My Tho
Ben Tre
Vung Tau
Can Tho
Rach Gia
Gulf of Siam
Vinh Loi
Quan Long
South China Sea